

HOUSING RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Room 1204, City Hall

July 6, 1967

The Executive Group of the Housing Resources Committee of the City of Atlanta, Georgia this date unanimously adopted a motion that the Committee prepare a memorial for use by Mayor Ivan Allen Jr. in connection with his scheduled testimony, Thursday, July 13, before the Senate Appropriations Committee, pointing out the need for, and this Committee's support of, reinstatement of the Rent Supplement program.

Atlanta is now promoting an accelerated five-year program for construction of 16,800 low-cost housing units by the end of 1971, in order to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing for all of its citizens. Of this amount, 9,800 units are needed during 1967 and 1968.

The City has planned strongly on the Rent Supplement program to supplement Public Housing for families in the lowest income brackets. Without it our Public Housing requirements will have to be substantially increased.

The Rent Supplement program stimulates Private Enterprise in producing the needed housing units, provides a wider field in both design and location, as well as a broader economic mix, than conventional Public Housing developments. At the same time it keeps the property on the tax digest at full tax value.

Although several Rent Supplement projects were in planning in Atlanta at the time the funds were recently cut off by Congress, only two projects had actually received final approval; one of 108 units for Wheat St. Gardens and one of 150 units for the Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta.

This Committee sincerely hopes and strongly urges that the Senate Appropriations Committee will see its way clear to reinstate the Rent Supplement program which is so essential in meeting the needs of the lowest-income families in Atlanta, as well as in most of the larger cities throughout this nation.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecil A. Alexander, Chairman  
Housing Resources Committee